Guidelines for participation of Indian Films in International Film Festivals

*211. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines for permitting Indian films to take part in International Film festivals;

(b) whether it is a fact that a film produced by N.T.P.C. was not permitted to participate in the Cannes Film Festival; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) the Directorate of Film Festivals sends entries for participation in International Film Festivals in respect of films that are selected by the Selection Panel for Indian Panorama Section of the International Film Festival of India. Besides, any private film Producer desirous of entering his film in an International Film Festival can send his entry directly to the concerned Film Festival. There are no separate guidelines for permitting Indian films to take part in International Film Festivals.

(b) No Sir. Actually the NTPC has not sought permission from any agency of this Ministry for its film for participation in Cannes Film Festival.

(c) Does not arise.

Procurement and Export of Iron-ore by MMTC

*212. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MMTC has been procuring iron-ore from different iron-ore bearing States for export purpose;

(b) if so, the quantum of iron-ore procured by MMTC from different States and exported to different countries during the last three years;

(c) whether there has been a sharp decline in the procurement and export of iron-ore from Orissa;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the projections made for 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 to export iron-ore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Details of the quantum of iron-ore procured from different states by MMTC and their exports during the last three years are as follows:

(Qty. in lakh Tonnes)

NAME OF THE STATE AND PORTS	DESTINATION COUNTRY-WISE	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000 (Provisional)	
		Procured	Exported	Procured	Exported	Procured	Exported
Karnataka (Chennai/ Mormugao/ Panaji)	Japan, South Korea, China, Pakistan, UAE, European Union and Others	66.76	63.55	57.60	55.72	54.07	62.81
Madhya Pradesh (Vizag)	Japan, China	37.63	37.57	37.92	37.94	38.13	38.10
GOA (Mormugao/ Panaji)	Japan, China Thailand, Romania, Pakistan	2.01	3.53	1.28	3.27	8.71	5.79
BIHAR (Paradip)	Japan, China, Pakistan, Others	3.05		2.32		0.75	
ORISSA (Paradip)	Japan, China, Pakistan, Others	6.09	9.94	3.21	6.29	5.71	9.45
Grand Total		115.54	114.59	102.32	103.22	107.36	116.15

(Source: MMTC)

There was a dip in the procurement and export of iron-ore from Orissa in 1998-99, which has since been reversed in 1999-2000. The dip in 1998-99 is mainly attributable to factors such as: increase in FOB cost of iron-ore as compared to sales price, and recession in the international steel industry, which had overall impact on iron ore exports.

(Note: Iron ore procurement and export being a continuous process, difference in figures reflecting these two operations are on account of variations in inventory levels.)

(e) The projections made for iron-ore exports of MMTC for 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 are given below:

(Qty. in Lakh Tonnes, Value in Rs. Crore)

2000-2001 (Estimated)		2001-2002 (Estimated)	
Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
140	1164	140—150	1229—1317

(Source: MMTC)

Diversion of SCA Fund

*213. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Tamil Nadu and Governments have diverted the special central assistance (SCA) fund; and

(b) if so, what action Government contemplate to take against the officers, who are responsible for diverting the SCA fund?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) Yes, Sir. According to the Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the year ending March, 1998, Union Government (Civil) Performance Appraisals No. 3 of 1999, an amount of Rs. 2.81 Crores in case of Andhra Pradesh and Rs. 1.15 crores in case of Tamil Nadu out of SCA to TSP released to these States were reported to be diverted to other Schemes/activities during 1992-93 to 1997-98. The said report, however, does not indicate any diversion of fund under SCA to TSP in case of Orissa.

(b) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has complied with the report of CAG indicating that out of Rs. 100 crores released to the State Government during 1992-93 to 1997-98, an amount of Rs. 2.81 crore was utilised on infrastructural development which is below 30% of the released amount. The amount utilised for infrastructural development is permissible as per the guidelines. The State Government of Tamil Nadu has also complied with the observations of CAG and indicated that SCA to TSP is utilised only for socio-economic development of the scheduled Tribes in addition to State Plan funds and not on staff. State Governments have been advised for strict compliance of the CAG Report.